(iii) Agreement signed' between Indian Space Research Organisation. (ISRO) and. Hie Deutsche Forsehungsanstalt Fur Luft-Unc Raumfahrt (DLR), West Genrmany on current and new thrusts of collaborative efforts between the two organisations on peaceful uses of outer space in the areas of space sciences, Technology and Applications.

(b) In collaborative arrangements with different countries, research projects are carried out jointly with complementary efforts. While there are ongoing collabora tive activitie$ with several countries, there Is no forma) offe$ of assistance from any foreign country for space research pro jects.

Foreign assistance ^n Ocean Development

1689. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the countries which are assisting India in Ocean Development;

(h) what is the nature of assistance and what are the proposals for foreign assistance under consideration; and

(c) whether any negotiations are i$ the offing in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINTSTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECH-NOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Oceanographic Research Vessel Sagar Ka.nya and Fishery Oceanographi$ Research Vessel Sagar Sampada have been procured by the Department of Ocean Development under Soft Loan assistance extended by the Government of Federal Republic of Germany and Denmark, respectively.

.(c) Negotiations are underway to procure a coastal oceanographic research vessel with the Soft Loa$ assistance to be jnadp available by the Government of Denmark.

1690. *[Transferred* to the 10th August 1989],

Completion of civil construction work of Department of Telecommunications

1691. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTA CHARJEE: Will the Mnister of COM MUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whe'her it is a fact that most of the civil construction programmes for dif ferent needs of the telecommunications de partment throughout [he country are lo gins fcehind-the target dates for their com pletion;

(bl whether it is also a fact that *a% a.* result of delay most of the exchange development programmes fo$ telephones are also being delayed;

(cV if so, what are the details in this (regard;

(d) the details of jobs completed during the pas* three years and of those undertaking during the period and are still on the process of completion; and

(e) the efforts proposed to ne made to expedite the ongoing jobs and to maintain schedules pertaining to completion time and date?

THn MTNISTER OF STATc OF THE MINTSTRv OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRr GIRIDHAR GOMANGO); (a) No, Sir.

(b) ND, Sir. Telephone exchange equip-ment supnlv programme i$ planned to ma*-^ with the availability of the exchange building. Hence development of telephone system does not suffeT because of buildings.

(c) Doe$ not arise.

(d) The * information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Regular monitoring of all on-going works is being done to maintain schedules pertaining to completion time and date.

Availability of Medicines and Tinctures in CGHS (Homoeopathic) traits in Delhi

1692. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HEAL TH AND FAMILY WELFARE be plea sed to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the essential medicines and Mother Tinctures are not available in the CGHS Homoeopathic dispensaries/units in Delhi;

(b) if so, the names of medicines and Mother Tinctures which are not available with the CGHS Homoeopathic dispen-saries[units in Delhi;

(c) since when these medicines are not available and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take *o make available all medicines and Mother Tinctures in .CGHS dispensaries) units in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRl RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Most of the essential medicines and mother tinctures are available in CGHS Homoeopathic dispensariesl units in.Delhi.

Consumption of Cigarettes (Tobacco

1693. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made with regard to the rise/decrease in the consumption of cigarettes|tobacco among the male and female smokers both in the rural and urban areas in the country during the last five years;

(h) if so, what is the percentage of rise|decrease and how d°es the cigarette| tobacco habits in the country compare with those in the developing countries;

(c) what is the percentage of smokers anticipated to rise by the tum of the century with the present rate of cigarette|to-bacco consumption in the country- and

(d) what measures, apart from the mandatory warning on the cigarette packets,' have been taken by Government so far to discourage smoking- habits and the manner in • which Government propose t» check this growing habit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRi RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c) No country-wise survey of smoking trends has been carried out so far. However, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay conducted surveys on tobacco habits in the districts of Emakulam (Kerala), Srikakulam (Andhra Pradesh) and Bhavnagar (Gujarat). As per this survey, the prevalence of tobacco habit varied from 18 per cent to 86 per cent among males and from 8 per cent to 67 per cent among females.

(d) The measures undertaken to reduc* the habit of smoking are:—

(a) educating the masses against use of tobacco products by highlighting its evil effects on health like cardie-vascular diseases, hypertension, oral and lung cancer etc.

(b) printing of statutory warning on on cigarette packets, hoarding etc.

Measures proposed to be undertakes are:—

(c) ban on advertisement of cigarette and tobacco products on mass media, sports stadia etc.

(d) ban on smoking in public places, meetings, seminars etc.

Requirement of Floppy Discs

1694. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated annual re quirement of floppy discs in India for the current year as well as for next two years;

(b) what is the indigenous capacity in the country as against this;